



TWIN SPICA

Kou Yaginuma

6

TWIN SPICA



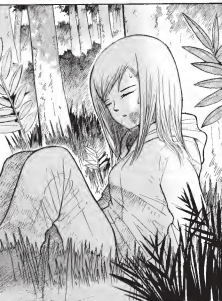
Kou Yaginuma



CONTENTS

MISSION:25.....	003
MISSION:26.....	033
MISSION:27.....	063
MISSION:28.....	093
MISSION:29.....	123
★	
TINY, TINY AQUA STAR.....	153
ANOTHER SPICA.....	183





I HAVE
TO BE
STRONG



TO STAND
BEING
ALONE



I HAVE TO
HAVE THE
STRENGTH
OF HEART

THAT
DAY
?



DIDN'T
I
PROMISE
MYSELF



MISSION:25

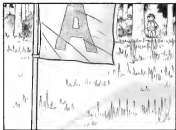


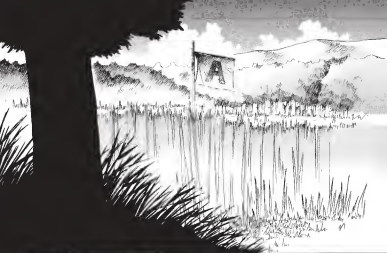










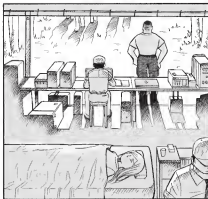












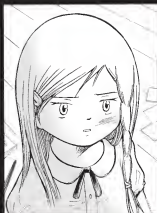














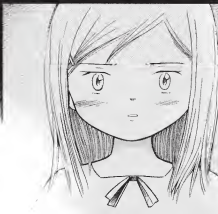
IF SHE WAS
ONLY GOING
TO BRING
ME PAIN.

THEN I



THAT
WASN'T
THE MARIKA
I WANTED.

NOT
EVEN
CLOSE



DIDN'T
NEED HER.

OH,
NO
!!



WHAT?!
WHAT ARE THEY THINKING?!





LOOKING
FOR ME
?!







WHY ARE
THEY...



SO
THERE ARE
PEOPLE
WHO
WORRY
ENOUGH
TO LOOK
FOR ME.



WHAT'S
WRONG,
UKITA?

HEY,
STOP!



WHY
WOULD
SUCH A
THING



MAKE ME
SO GLAD?







MISSION:26



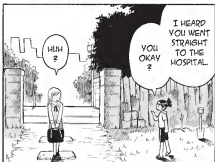




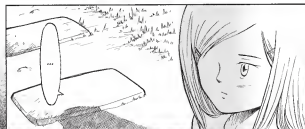
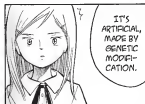
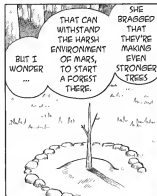














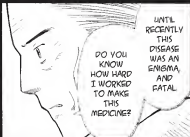
WHY DIDN'T
YOU TAKE
THESE?

WHY
ARE YOU SO
STUBBORN
?

THESE PILLS
ARE WHAT'S
KEEPING
YOU ALIVE.



FOR
THE
FORTUNE
OF THE
FAMILY.

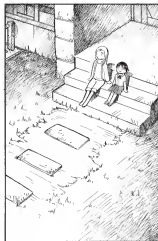
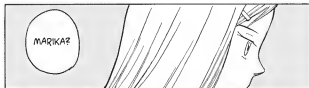


DO YOU
KNOW
HOW HARD
I WORKED
TO MAKE
THIS
MEDICINE?

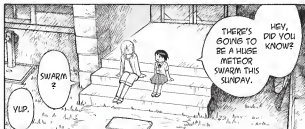
UNTIL
RECENTLY
THIS
DISEASE
WAS AN
ENIGMA,
AND
FATAL.





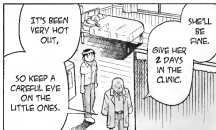




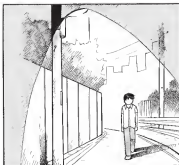






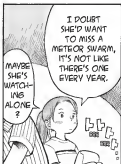














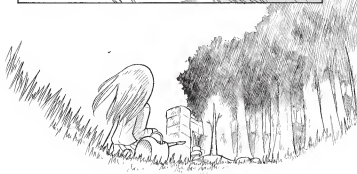


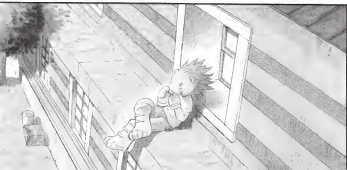


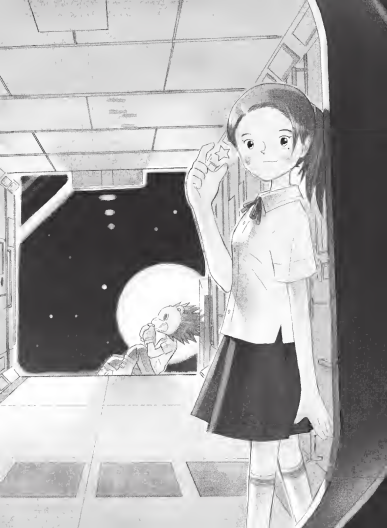




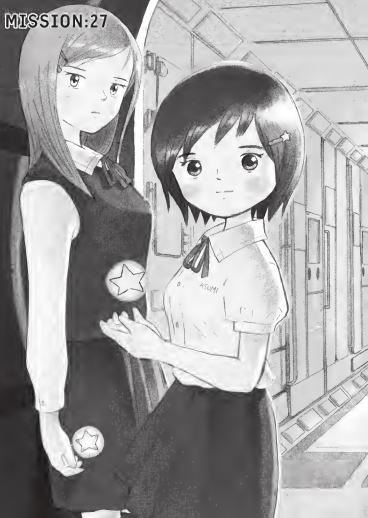








MISSION:27







GOOD MORNING,
MR. LION.



WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING,
LITTLE
ONE?



SCHOOL'S
CLOSED.

IT'S
SUNDAY.



HIS
NAME IS
RYOHEI
HAJIMA.



HELP!
A
FOREIGNER?

NO,
A
JAPANESE.



TO-
DAY'S
SPECIAL.

A
SPEAKER
FROM
OVERSEAS
IS COMING
TO SCHOOL.



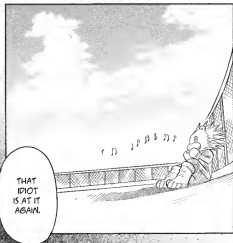


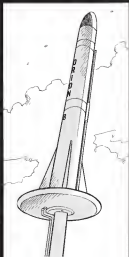








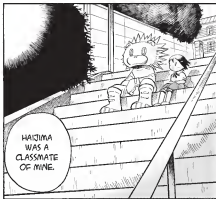






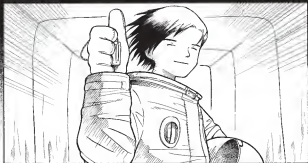














I THINK
NOW
THAT
HE

GAVE ME
HIS SEAT
ON
"THE LION."



WHY
DID HE
APOLOGIZE
TO ME?

HE SAID
"SORRY."



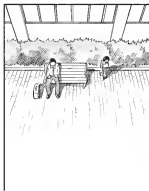
HE
SHOULD
JUST
TAKE IT
EASY,
THE
FOOL.

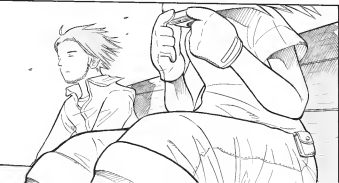
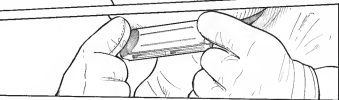
PROBABLY
HAD TO DO
WITH A
MISPLACED
SENSE OF
GUILT.

HIS
RETIRED
AFTER
JUST ONE
MISSION

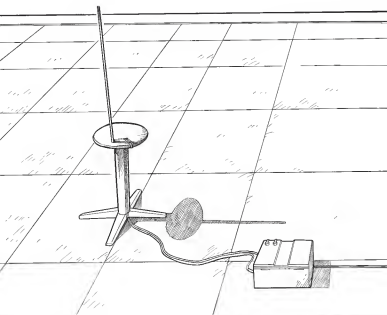




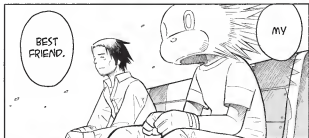


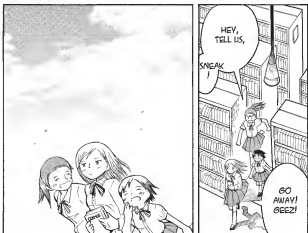






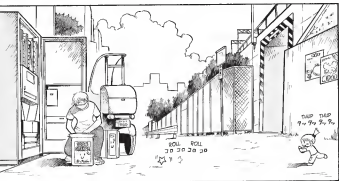








WHAG
ヒュウウ...









YOU
KNOW,

DING DONG
キーンコーン
カーンコーン

SHU
HASN'T
BEEN IN
CLASS

THIS
WHOLE
WEEK.

HE'S
ALWAYS
SKIPPING
CLASS,
BUT
A WEEK
IS
LONG.

DON'T
DECIDE
FOR ME,
PUMPKY
!

WE SHOULD
CHECK UP
ON HIM
TOMORROW.

YES,
LET'S
!
FUCKY,
TAKE
US.

OR ELSE
PASSED
OUT IN
SOME
CLASS-
ROOM.

HE'S
PROBABLY
WORKING
ALL DAY.

YEAH.

THAT
RUN-
DOWN
PLACE.

DON'T
YOU
KNOW
WHERE
HE LIVES
?

WHAT?!

1. 鈴木秋

(L. 鈴木 秋)

589
点

I
TOTALLY
DON'T
GET IT.

WELL,
HE'S REALLY
SMART.

WHEN
DOES HE
HAVE TIME
TO STUDY ?

WELL,
YOU ARE
BAD AT
IT.

HA HA

I FAILED
ENGLISH,
THAT'S
WHY.

YOU'RE
SMART
TOO,
ASUMI.

YOU JUST
BARELY
MADE
THE
TOP 50,
THOUGH.

功

55
点

50
鴨川了三
529
点

50. ASUMI
KAMOGAWA

49
山多順一朗
531
点

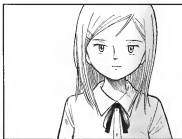


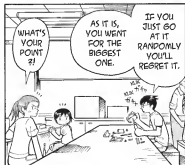
50.

鴨川アスミ

529 点

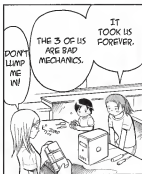
50. ASUMI
KAMOSHAWA

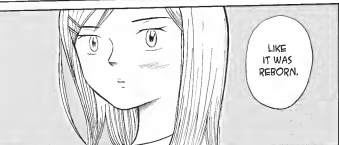










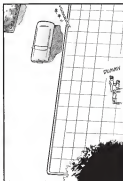






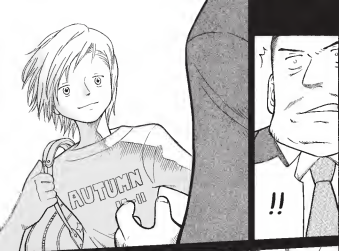


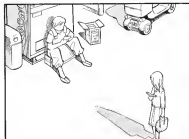














WHY?

I CAN'T
GET IT
BACK.



EVERYONE'S
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU.
THEY WENT TO
YOUR PLACE.



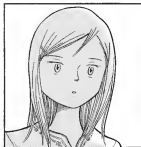
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?



I
THOUGHT
IT'D BE
EASY
BUT
IT'S
TOTALLY
NOT.

I
UNFOLDED
IT,
BUT NOW
IT WON'T
GO BACK.

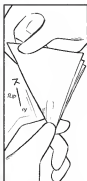
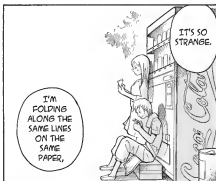
I CAN'T
GET IT
INTO A
STAR.



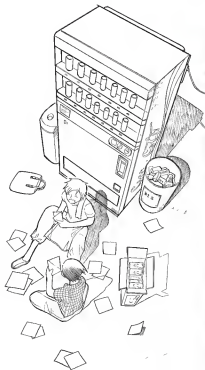
I HAVE
TONS
OF
PAPER.

MISS
UKITA,
CAN YOU
FOLD
ORIGAMI?

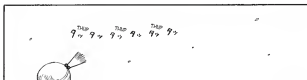
AH,

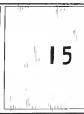
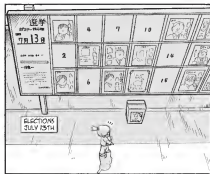










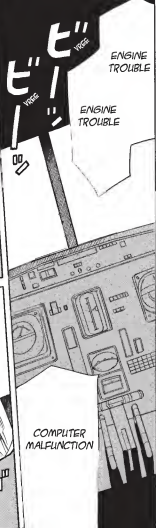






YES!

SWITCHING
TO
MANUAL
CONTROL



ENGINE
TROUBLE

ENGINE
TROUBLE



BRING
CRAFT
TO 500,
THEN
PRESS
THE
AS RED
SWITCH
...

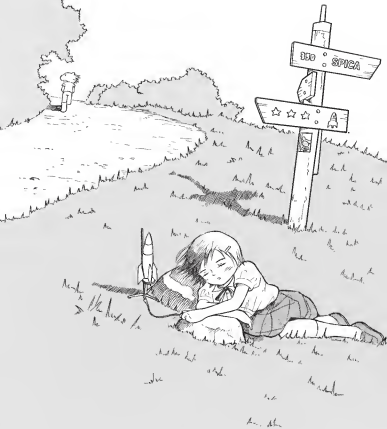
650
!

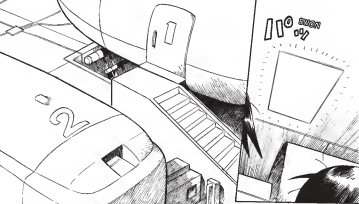
UHM

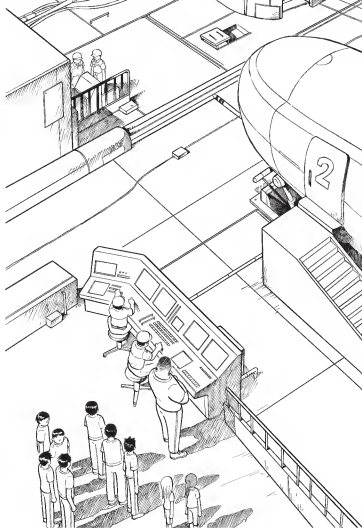
ELEVATION?

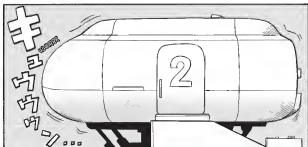
COMPUTER
MALFUNCTION

MISSION:29



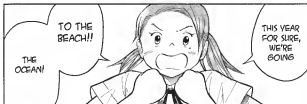
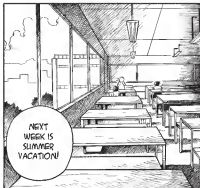














AH !!

STOP !



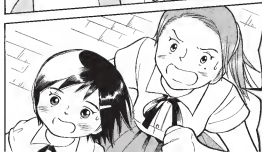




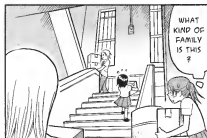


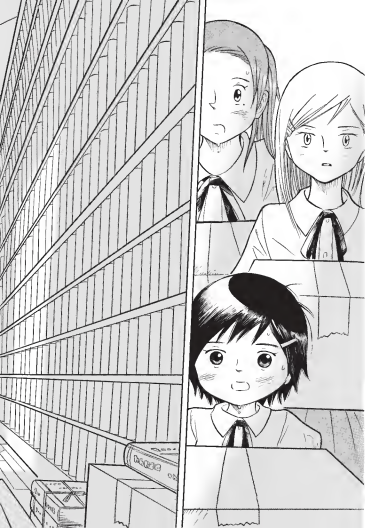






MOVING!











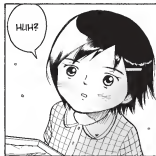
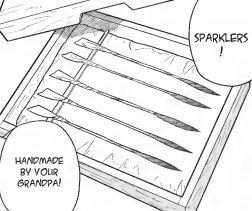


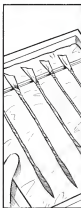














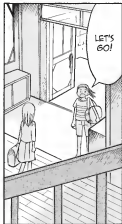
ASUMI
!!

UH,
LITTLE
ONE...

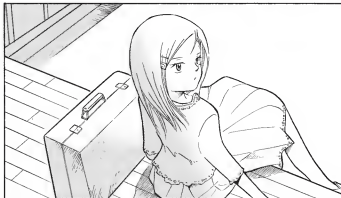


SEE
VA

MR.
LION!



LET'S
GO!





LET US PRAY
TO THESE
TINY FLAMES
THAT SUCH
AN INCIDENT
WILL NEVER
HAPPEN
AGAIN.

7 YEARS
HAVE PASSED
SINCE THAT
TRAGIC EVENT.

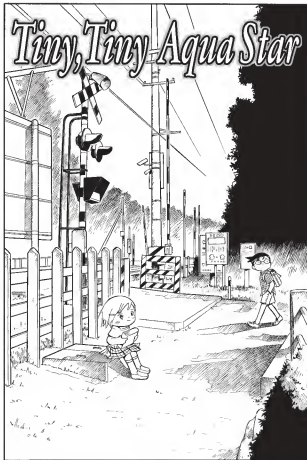


LET US
PRAY.



THIS, TOO,
WAS
A LONG
TIME AGO
...

Tiny, Tiny Aqua Star

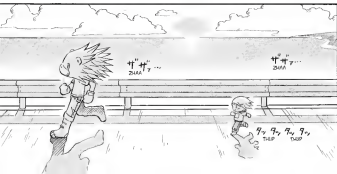


















ADMIT THAT
YOU'RE LYING
ABOUT THE
GHOST!

SAV IT!



...



YUISHIYAMA
ELEMENTARY

JUST GIVE
IT UP
ALREADY!



MISS SUZUNARI
IS TELLING US
TO MAKE UP
WITH YOU

BUT YOU'RE
SUCH A LIAR.

DON'T JUST
SIT THERE!
SAV IT!



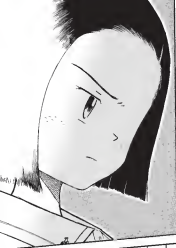
LYING
TO TRY
AND MAKE
EVERYONE
FEEL SORRY
FOR YOU.

HOW
AWFUL
...



YOU
EVEN
SAID

YOU SAW
YOUR
DEAD
MOTHER.







SPEND
YOUR TIME
LOOKING
UP, AT
THE SKY.

YOU
MIGHT
AS
WELL



LITTLE
MISS.

ONLY LOOK
DOWN FOR
AS LONG
AS THAT
SPARKLER
LASTS,



HERE.



THE SKY
YOU SEE
AS A KID'S
A LIFELONG
TREASURE.

I MEAN
IT.



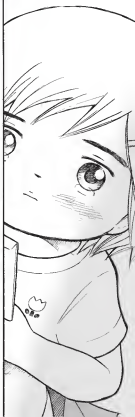
VALUE
WHAT YOU
CAN SEE
NOW AND
ONLY NOW.



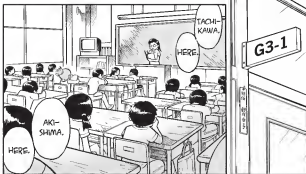
I ONLY
THOUGHT
THE SKY WAS
VERY HIGH
WHEN I WAS
YOUR AGE.

ME,
I'VE SPENT
DECADES
STARING UP
AT THE SKY
IN THIS
TOWN.

WHEN
YOU'RE OLD,
IT DOESN'T
SEEM QUITE
THAT WAY.









THEIR
FAMILY
IS
VERY
BUSY.

HER MOTHER
WAS IN
THE HOSPITAL,
AND PASSED
AWAY
LAST NIGHT.



PLEASE
TAKE OUT
YOUR MATH
TEXTBOOKS.



PLEASE BE
NICE TO HER,
JUST LIKE
BEFORE.

SO
WHEN
SHE
COMES
BACK

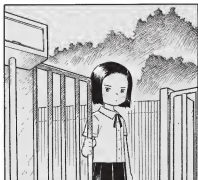
OKAY?

LET'S
CONTINUE
WITH
FRACTIONS

PAGE
49.













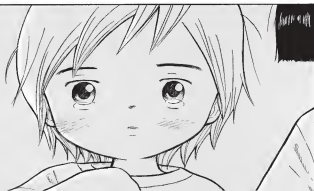


I WANT
TO SEE
MY
MOM!

I
WANT
MY
MOM
!

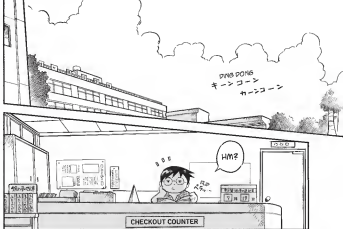
I WAS
LYING
!!













MY MOTHER TOLD ME IN THE HOSPITAL

THAT SHE WANTED TO SEE, JUST ONCE MORE, LIKE SHE DID AS A KID.



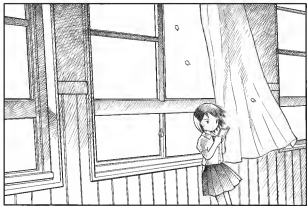
MY MOM'S GHOST MUST HAVE SEEN ALL THOSE FIREFLIES,





"TINY, TINY AQUA STAR" —THE END

ANOTHER SPICA



KOU YAGINUMA

And for some reason, sliced pineapple also became available that spring.



The menu was fresh-squeezed orange juice for 360 yen, and ham sandwiches.



I was still working at the theme park on the bay.



This happened during spring while I was a student.



then use this thingie



First, you lay it horizontally and chop off both ends,



I can't cook and I'm bad with knives, but it was fun chopping pineapples.



WE DON'T NEED THAT MANY PINE-APPLES!

WASP!



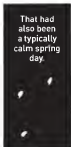
WOW!



I'd only ever seen such perfectly round pineapple in cans before.

to slice off the rind in one go.

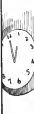




I waited
and waited,
but she never
appeared.



The
hour
neared.



I was so
nervous
I showed up
an hour
early.

It was
my
first
date.



We were to
meet on
a train
platform
by the sea.



I was like
Damon
waiting for
Pythias.

NO!
THERE
MUST
BE A
REASON!
YOU'LL
BE HERE!

HIT ME
FOR
DOUBTING
YOU EVEN
A LITTLE!



A bad
feeling
crept up.

CANCELLED!

DID SHE

This was before
cell phones
were common,
so contacting her
was impossible.

I
NEED
CASH.



YEAH,
FOR
MR.
LION.



YOU
WAITING
FOR
SOMEONE,
TOO?

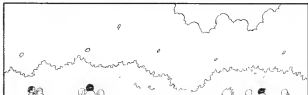
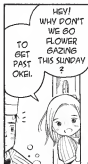


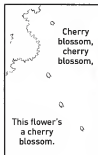
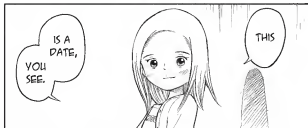
Just as the sound of
the waves and
the pretty sunset
and everything else
began to seem
meaningless...











Notes on the Translation

P. 120

The character for Shu's first name means *autumn* and is commonly pronounced "aki."
See also his T-shirt on pp. 112-14.



P. 133

The character "hama" in Yuigahama means *seashore*. The first character "yui" means *solitary* or *unique*. The "ga" is a connective. A real seashore region called Yuigahama exists in Kanagawa prefecture (as well as in neighboring Shizuoka). Though the "yui" is spelled with different characters, Asumi's hometown resembles the real area geographically.



P. 168

While the attendance roll call consists of entirely plausible surnames, they happen also to be stations on the Oume line, which runs through the western half of Tokyo prefecture. Hence Fuchuya's quip.



Production - Hiroko Mizuno
Tomoe Tsutsumi
Christine Lee
Rina Nakayama

Copyright © 2011 Kou Yaginuma
First published in Japan in 2004 by MEDIA FACTORY, Inc.
English language version reserved by Vertical, Inc.
Under the license from MEDIA FACTORY, Inc.

Translation Copyright © 2011 Vertical, Inc.
Published by Vertical, Inc., New York

Originally published in Japanese as *Futatsu no Supika 6*
by MEDIA FACTORY, Inc., Tokyo 2004
Futatsu no Supika first serialized in Gekkan Comic Flapper,
MEDIA FACTORY, Inc., 2001-2009

This is a work of fiction.

e-ISBN: 978-1-939130-53-2

Manufactured in Canada

First Edition

Vertical, Inc.
451 Park Avenue South, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10016
www.vertical-inc.com

Asumi and her classmates' cross-country ordeal comes to an end, but it's far from their last challenge as they're quickly reminded. Meanwhile, one of the gang starts skipping class.

Praise for *Twin Spica*

"Ultimately, the manga surprised me. Reading about *Twin Spica*'s lead trying to go into space, I got choked up. It's more sensitive and naturalistic than other space academy manga." —*Ain't It Cool News*

"I am hooked. Totally and completely hooked. The strength of the story comes from the solid, likable characters, and the charming, engaging illustrations.

Grade: A" —*Manga Maniac Cafe*



